IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

Satoshi MACHIDA :

Serial No. [NEW]

Filed: September 24, 2003

For: PRECISION-OF-REGISTER MEASURING MASK AND MEASURING

METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office 2011 South Clark Place Customer Window, Mail Stop New Application Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03 Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

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Preliminary to the examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Specification

Kindly insert the following paragraph on page 1, between lines 1 and 2 as follows:

Cross-Reference to Related Application

The present application claims the benefit of US provisional patent application serial no. 60/413,942, filed on September 27, 2002.